

Claims

1. (Previously presented) A method for print-to-mail notification, comprising:  
determining that a print-to-mail format document has been generated by printing, folding, and sealing the document as a mailing;  
identifying attributes of the print-to-mail format document; and  
generating notification information that identifies that the print-to-mail format document has been generated, thereby indicating that the document has been printed, folded, and sealed as a mailing.
2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein determining that a print-to-mail format document has been generated comprises detecting that the print-to-mail document has been printed, folded, and sealed.
3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein determining that a print-to-mail format document has been generated comprises receiving a notice from a print-to-mail device component configured to fold and seal the document.
4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying document attributes comprises identifying at least one of a name of the document, a date the document was printed, and a name of a user.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying document attributes comprises identifying at least one of a customer name, a customer number, a billing period to which the document pertains.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein generating notification information comprises generating notification information that identifies at least one of the document attributes.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting notification information to a computing device.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein transmitting notification information comprises transmitting notification information to a remote computing device via a network.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein transmitting notification information comprises transmitting the information to a database from which data contained within the print-to-mail format document originated.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the database is supported by a network-based database management system.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the notification information within memory of a print-to-mail device that printed, folded, and sealed the print-to-mail format document.

12. (Previously presented) A system for print-to-mail notification, comprising:  
means for determining that a print-to-mail format document has been generated by printing, folding, and sealing the document as a mailing;  
means for identifying attributes of the print-to-mail format document; and  
means for generating notification information that identifies that the print-to-mail format document has been generated, thereby indicating that the document has been printed, folded, and sealed as a mailing.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the means for identifying document attributes comprise means for identifying at least one of a name of the document, a date the document was printed, and a name of a user.

14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the means for identifying document attributes comprise means for identifying at least one of a customer name, a customer number, a billing period to which the document pertains.

15. (Original) The system of claim 12, further comprising means for transmitting notification information to a computing device.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the means for transmitting notification information comprise means for transmitting notification information to a remote computing device via a network.

17. (Previously presented) The system of claim 12, further comprising means for storing the notification information within memory of a print-to-mail device that printed, folded, and sealed the print-to-mail format document.

18. (Previously presented) A print-to-mail device, comprising:  
a processing device;  
hard copy generation hardware;  
a folding mechanism;  
a sealing mechanism; and  
memory including a print-to-mail notifier configured to generate notification information pertinent to generating of print-to-mail documents that have been printed, folded, and sealed by the print-to-mail device as a mailing.

19. (Original) The device of claim 18, wherein the hard copy generation hardware comprises a print engine.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) The device of claim 18, wherein the notifier is configured to identify at least one attribute of the print-to-mail format document.

22. (Original) The device of claim 18, wherein the memory further comprises a database adapted to store the notification information.

23. (Original) The device of claim 18, further comprising a network interface device adapted to transmit notification information to a computing device via a network.

24. (Original) The device of claim 18, further comprising an embedded web server that supports a print-to-mail service that is accessible over a network.

25. (Original) The device of claim 24, wherein the service comprises a print-to-mail web service that is accessible over the Internet.

26. (Previously presented) The device of claim 21, wherein the at least one attribute comprises at least one of a name of the document, a date the document was printed, and a name of a user.

27. (Previously presented) The device of claim 21, wherein the at least one attribute comprises at least one of a customer name, a customer number, a billing period to which the document pertains.

28. (Previously presented) A device comprising:

a processing device;

a print engine configured to print documents;

a folding mechanism configured to fold the printed documents;

a sealing mechanism configured to seal the folded documents; and

memory including a print-to-mail notifier configured to generate a notification that confirms generation of multiple print-to-mail format documents and thereby confirms printing, folding, and sealing of the multiple documents as mailings, the notification comprising information as to the intended recipients of the mailings such that the notification comprises a record of recipients who presumably will receive a mailing;

wherein the mailings do not require an envelope to be mailed.

29. (Previously presented) The device of claim 28, wherein the recipients are customers of a business and the mailings comprise bills that are to be mailed to the customers.

30. (Previously presented) The device of claim 28, wherein the notifier is configured to transmit the notification to a database from which data contained within the mailings originated.

31. (Previously presented) The device of claim 28, wherein the notifier is configured to transmit the notification to a user via a network.

32. (Previously presented) The device of claim 28, wherein the notifier is configured to store the notification in the memory of the device.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the print-to-mail format document does not require an envelope for purposes of mailing once it has been folded and sealed as a mailing.

34. (Previously presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the print-to-mail format document does not require an envelope for purposes of mailing once it has been folded and sealed as a mailing.

35. (Previously presented) The device of claim 18, wherein the print-to-mail format document does not require an envelope for purposes of mailing once it has been folded and sealed as a mailing.